

one of the most critical problems facing the residents of San Diego County and California—illegal immigration.

My Eliminating the Magnet for Illegal Immigration Act gets at the root of the problem. It will stop people from trying to cross the border in the first place by removing the attraction—jobs offered by unscrupulous employers that entice people to come to the United States.

My bill finally clamps down on employers that encourage illegal immigration by violating our laws and knowingly hiring undocumented workers.

In San Diego, I represent the district that runs along the border and has the most border crossings—both legal and illegal—in the world. I am acutely aware of the strain illegal immigration puts on communities in my district, and I have always been a firm believer in gaining control of our borders.

In the last 2 years, we have made significant progress. We have increased the number of Border Patrol agents and have begun to give them the tools and technology to get the job done.

But these changes have had limited success in stopping illegal immigration. The critical next step in the fight to stop illegal immigration is to eliminate the magnet and enforce our laws against the hiring of illegal immigrants.

In 1986, Congress underscored the need to eliminate the job magnet and made it illegal to hire undocumented workers—but these laws have been largely ignored. The INS simply has not had the resources to do its job.

Some employers hire undocumented workers because their status makes them easy targets for exploitation and abuse. These employers know they can force them to work in substandard conditions. These employers know they can get away with paying them substandard wages. Is it any wonder that we have this problem.

My legislation gives the INS the resources it needs to aggressively enforce employer sanctions and gives the Department of Labor the resources to aggressively enforce wage and hour laws.

And most importantly, it directs the two agencies to combine forces and target those industries notorious for hiring undocumented workers and forcing them to work in unacceptable conditions.

My bill gets tough on employers who knowingly hire undocumented workers by imposing stronger sanctions and doubling those penalties against employers also caught violating labor laws. It also helps employers by reducing the number of documents workers can use to verify their eligibility.

I want to fully acknowledge that there is an inherent danger that this kind of approach could lead to discrimination against workers—and evidence shows that this has indeed been the case in some instances. Thus my bill will also stiffen the penalties against employers that discriminate and give the Department of Justice the resources it needs to thoroughly investigate incidents of discrimination. We will also provide programs to educate employers about their responsibilities in this area.

My bill takes a balanced, comprehensive approach to the problems created by illegal immigration. As a border Congressman, I am well aware of both the positive and the negative effects of immigration.

And I promised myself, and the people that I represent, that we would deal with the nega-

tive impacts without retreating from the values that have made this the greatest country in the world. I challenge Congress to get past the scapegoating that has become so politically profitable.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this critically important initiative and show your commitment to truly stem the illegal immigration that affects so many of our communities. I ask you to join me and co-sponsor the Eliminate the Magnet for Illegal Immigration Act of 1997.

TRIBUTE TO PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to acknowledge the students, faculty and administration at Pepperdine University. This university was recently commended by the John Templeton Foundation in the 1997–1998 Honor Roll for Character Building Colleges.

A panel of six distinguished individuals from various backgrounds evaluated colleges and universities across the country. They used five criteria to determine if the colleges were providing students not only with an environment which allowed them to develop a strong sense of morality and grow spiritually, but also provided students with an opportunity to give back to their community. To be considered for a place on the honor roll, colleges must inspire students to develop and strengthen their moral and reasoning skills, encourage spiritual growth and moral values, provide community building experiences, advocate a drug-free lifestyle and conduct a critical assessment of character-building projects and activities.

The faculty at Pepperdine University have worked to establish an environment which allows students to reflect on ethical questions and develop their own sense of morality. Christian tradition plays a central role in the students' lives and they are provided with opportunities to attend services, bible studies and lectures given by theologians from the evangelical world. Additionally, students lead and manage community outreach programs, such as tutoring at a youth correctional facility as well as other special events.

Leon Blum once wrote, "Life does not give itself to one who tries to keep all its advantages at once. I have often thought morality may perhaps consist solely in the courage of making a choice." Students at Pepperdine University have made a choice that they are willing to make a difference in our community. In making this choice the students have made the welfare of others their top priority.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me honoring the students and faculty at this exceptional institution for their integrity of character and commitment to improving the circumstances of those less fortunate in our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. JUDY
FLUM'S LITERACY EFFORTS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Ms. Judy Flum, an individual who has provided 10 years of superior service to the San Lorenzo Library. Ms. Flum has consistently provided support for the youth in our community by encouraging them to use the library's resources. She also conducts programs throughout the year such as the summer reading game, pre-school storytime, young adult advisory group, and many programs for senior citizens.

Judy has been instrumental in bringing several grants to the San Lorenzo Library. The youth risk grant helped the library become better acquainted with the needs of young people and created a safe environment in which they can learn, study, and grow. The Spanish grant increased the size of the Library's Spanish collection and created a community outreach program for Spanish-speaking families. The learn-a-lot program was developed in conjunction with the San Lorenzo Unified School District to help children between the grades of kindergarten through fourth grade increase their reading potential. Without a doubt, Judy has been a remarkable asset to the growth of the San Lorenzo Library.

As a member of the American Library Association, Judy has served on many of its committees dealing with young adults. Her interest in technology has ensured our youth will be better prepared for the challenges of the 21st century. As the library manager, she has worked tirelessly to establish a training program to teach people how to use the Internet. She was also responsible for establishing an Alameda County Library homepage.

On September 25, 1997, the friends of the San Lorenzo Library will honor Judy for her many years of service. I join with my neighbors as they thank Judy Flum for her valuable contributions to our community.

THE DEPENDENT CARE TAX CREDIT REFUNDABILITY ACT

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, quality child care is critically important to working families in every economic situation. Yet many working parents today simply cannot afford to pay the increasing costs of child care. Furthermore, affordable child care is critical to the success of moving women from welfare to work.

In the last Congress, I introduced legislation, H.R. 4154, to make the Dependent Care Tax Credit [DCTC] refundable. This bill was included in the Women's Caucus Economic Equity Act.

Today, along with Congressman TOM ALLEN, I am introducing an updated version of the same legislation. This legislation would help working families obtain high quality care. A major source of Federal support for families who rely on child care and dependent care is